submit the following fuller and amplified statement. The Progressive Party of the Cochin Legislative Council wishes to place on record the reasons for which the members of the Party thought it necessary to vote out the demand for General Administration.

1. The non-official members of the House hitherto enjoyed the right of putting questions, moving resolutions and making cut motions to press their claims for further constitutional reforms. Such opportunities have been totally denied to us during the present Budget Session by the disallowance of questions and cut motions relating thereto.

2. Further in spite of the repeated motions passed in the Legislative Council to introduce constitutional reforms, as no action in the matter has hitherto been taken we have to urge upon the Government the necessity of taking immediate steps in that direction.

3. We were therefore constrained to resort to the only constitutional measure open to us to bring home to the Government our sense of dissatisfaction in the matter.

Prorogation of the Council.

Mr. Joseph Pettah.—On a point of information. The other day the President was pleased to announce that at the end of the Session he would give us the statistics regarding the number of questions asked and disallowed.

President.—Hon'ble Members of the House, before proroguing the sitting I may be permitted, as usual, to say a few words in my capacity as President who was allowed the privilege of presiding over the last few days of the sitting.

As was observed the other day by the Officiating Diwan-President we had had to miss the presence of the Deputy President of the Council and unfortunately for us even the Officiating Diwan-President was suffering from a slight indisposition so as to prevent him from presiding this week over this Council. But I am very glad to inform you that both of them have practically recovered from their slight indisposition and I am sure the House will be glad to hear that they have been restored practically to good health to be ready to work with whatever work they may be entrusted with.

With regard to the point that was brought to the notice of the President the other day I am told that the total number of questions admitted was 558, the number answered 469, the balance to be answered 89 and the number of disallowed questions 100.

I do not think that there remains much to be said except perhaps a personal note. In the first place I am glad to note

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that this session has been in more ways than one an important session so far as the Legislative Council as a whole is concerned. It is not for me to go into the activities exhibited by both sides of the House. (*Hear, hear*). I am fully conscious and I am sure that the Government will echo my words when I say that the non-official side of the House has taken even a keener interest in the affairs of the Council than perhaps exhibited on former occasions. (*Hear, hear.*). Similarly I would also say that the official bench has not been slow in reciprocating the active interest taken by the non-official side by extending their services as far as lies in them to the non-official side as well.

With regard to the important matters that have been brought to the notice of the Council I am sure that fruitful results must follow ere long. No doubt I do not forget the fact that little clouds here and there were visible but then the greater the darkness, I am sure, the brighter will be the dawn. With these few words, I beg to prorogue the Council.

The House was prorogued at 5-1. p. m.

C. J. MATHEW,

Secretary to the Council.

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